

STAT
5THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION
23 July 1979

Documents Reveal CIA Probed U.S. Students

WASHINGTON

Newly released documents reveal that Walt W. Rostow commissioned a Central Intelligence Agency investigation of domestic student dissidence in the 1960's while he was President Johnson's national security adviser.

The documents, known within the agency as the "Family Jewels" because of their sensitive nature, were prepared in response to a 1973 request by James Schlesinger, who was then director of the C.I.A., for reports on all activities that might be considered beyond the agency's legislative charter. The charter limits the C.I.A.'s activity to conducting foreign intelligence operations.

1968 Report

The 1973 documents were obtained last week under the Freedom of Information Act by the Center for National Security Studies, a privately financed research group whose purpose is to reform activities of the intelligence agencies.

According to the Family Jewels, a report on worldwide student unrest entitled "Restless Youth" was commissioned in 1968 because, "confronted by tumult at campuses like Columbia and mindful of the violence accompanying student outbursts at Berlin's Free University and elsewhere, Rostow sought to learn whether youthful dissidence was interconnected."

One section of the "Restless Youth" report "drew heavily on overt literature and F.B.I. reporting

on Students for a Democratic Society and affiliated groups," the document said. "Because S.D.S. was a domestic organization, the full paper 'Restless Youth,' including the essay on worldwide dissent, went only to nine readers."

The Center for National Security Studies said, "The documents reveal for the first time that satellite photography was used by the C.I.A. to analyze domestic disturbances." It reached that conclusion because satellite spying was mentioned along with other reports of C.I.A. spying on U. S. dissident groups, including statements that:

► "D.C.S. [the Domestic Contact Service] collects information on foreign students studying in the U. S."

► "D.C.S. collects information on physicians practicing in the U. S. who have studied abroad (mostly foreign nationals)."

► "O.C.I. [the Office of Current Intelligence], in 1967 and 1968, prepared intelligence memoranda on possible foreign connections with the U. S. anti-war movement and worldwide student dissidence (including the S.D.S.) at the request of the White House."

In the same section, the report said, "N.P.I.C. [the C.I.A. National Photographic Interpretation Center] and COMIREX [the National Foreign Intelligence Board's Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation] 'review satellite imagery from N.A.S.A. programs to identify photography too 'sensitive' for public release."

—CATHERINE MYERS